G. R. S. IX-5]

Previous references.

1921-22

(Jan)

File No. 89

Serial Nos 23

Later references.

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

Serial Nos.

Part B for Feb 22.

SUBJECT.

Proposals to improve the Weaving factory

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a order

WD 1888—GPB—16,826—23-7-21

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TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS "INDUSTRIE

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In reply please refer to
No. DC 1580

ENCL. No. 0/2

OFFICE OF THE
DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRIES AND COMMERCE, IN MYSORE.

Bangalore...7th February....192 2.

FROM

P. G. D'SOUZA, ESQ., B.A., B.L.,

DC 81-21-23.

Director of Industries and Commerce in Mysore,

Bangalore (India)

To

The Secretary to the Government of Mysore,
General Department,
B a n g a l o r e.

I have the honor to forward herewith a copy of the discussions regarding improvements in Weaving in the Bangalore City with a few selected merchants and others engaged in the Industry. I propose reviewing the industry similarly in every important centre and take action to develop it fully. The work of the Demonstrators is also being regulated. Comprehensive proposals for developing the Weaving Factory will be submitted separately

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

DIRECTOR.

USC)

Enclosed for perusal & orders.
The comprehensive proposals
referred to may be awaited.

11.2.22

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17/2

With a view to have a closer association with the leading merchants in the City who are interested in the handloom industries a meeting was convened at the Govt: Weaving Factory at 4 P.M. on Friday the 27th January 1922. The Textile Assistant, the General Assistant to the Director and Mr.Anantaram, Commercial Assistant were also present. Amongst the merchants Messrs: D. Adeppa, G. Siddaveerappa, Sankappa Banappa, Rangaswamiah, P. Subbrama Chetty, Kode Eswarappa, B. Usman Khan and G. Naranappa of Chickballapur were also present.

Before the meeting commenced Mr. Hajee Ebrahim Elias Sait who has started a fly shuttle loom factory with 20 looms for the manufacture of Khadder had come. The position of his concern was discussed and it was learnt that there was another factory at work in Bangalore also. It was suggested that there was a promising demand for Khadder cloth in the weaving of which mill yarn w was used for warp and handspun yarn for weft. Mr.Ebrahim Sait has got local men not weavers trained for this work. It seems desirable that the entire position of similar factories should be examined and a beginning may be made in the malnad areas for starting small factories after the type of West Coast factories. One or two may be taken up as experimental factories run by the Department and handed over to private enterprise as time goes on. For instance, at Hunsur in conjunction with the Hunsur Kambli Factory, 3 or 4 fly shuttle looms engaged in the manufacture of cotton cloth may be worked.

The progress of sale of fly shuttle looms and loom parts during the last several years was reviewed and it was considered that in future our attempts should be more concentrated on the supply of new designs and the demonstration of improved appliances in new areas on the lines similar to those adopted by the Madras Government, employing if necessary weaving peripatetic ~~parties~~ parties.

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With a view to have a closer association with the weaving

needed to/ finance the individual weavers both in the purchase of loom and loom parts and in that of raw materials. Weaving co-operative societies have no doubt been organised but these in the absence of a central agency in the cities are not likely to be of much use. It was suggested that an association may be started having some support from Government and this may take up such work

The utility of such an association which was more philanthropic than commercial was doubted. It seems desirable that some practical action should be taken and the lines on which they may be undertaken seems to be indicated in an article published in Bombay Co-operative Quaterly an extract of which is enclosed for information. I shall address Government separately on this matter.

At this stage all the gentlemen who had been invited having come a visit to the factory was undertaken and the work done was carefully examined.

A brief statement was made indicating the nature of the work done hitherto in the Weaving Factory and suggestions were invited from the several gentlemen present as to the lines in which improvements could be effected and also as to how we could get our improved methods and appliances into more popular use.

As regards the articles made in the Government Weaving Factory it was stated that they were lacking in finish and the prices were little above the market price. It was suggested that due to the favourable conditions in which we were placed regarding the questio of purchase of raw materials we ought to be in a position to redue our selling prices. It was also stated that there would no difficulty in the disposal of the goods made in the Govt: Weaving Factory if the prices were consistent with the market prices and the quality of the goods was also not inferior. The question of agency was also discussed and it was stated that if the above two conditions were fulfilled there would be no need for a separate agency as the merchants that were present would between themselves take over the entire output. The representations appear to have much force. The Textile Assistant should see to the improvement of finish and reduction of prices.

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Babu Ramachandra considered that due to availability of electric power in the cities of Bangalore and Mysore, there was considerable scope for the development of power loom factories. He stated that more would be started if technical assistance was more freely available. He also thought the question of sizing for cotton goods required carefulk investigations and if this was once solved, there would be ~~mere~~ much progress. As regards the class of goods that were to be manufactured, the majority of merchants were of opinion that attention should be concentrated on the manufacture of silk goods as in Bangalore such manufacture had entirely displaced the old cotton looms. It would be difficult to induce a man who has once taken to silk manufacture to revert to that of cotton manufacture. As regards silk manufacture, it was suggested that improvement in reeling should be effected. It was stated that the Tata Silk Farm silk was good and was in great demand and even progress in that direction would be welcome. The work of the silk twisting machine was much appreciated and one of the important distributors of twisted silk for warps and wefts in the City, Mr. Khode Eswarappa has placed an order for six of these machines. It seems desirable to find out if the silk twisting industry can be taken up as a separate industry by itself. It was also represented that there was a good demand for coating silk if a proper quality could be had. A compiaint was raised that coats made out of our Mysore silk do not retain shape after ironing. The matter should be gone into.

Mr. B. Usman Khan while endorsing generally on the useful work done by the Government Weaving Factory hitherto was of opinion that greater attention should be paid to the development of manufacture of cotton goods. He stated that he had business connection with the factory at its early stages and had undertaken to sell their output. He had introduced some designs chiefly of articles that are imported largely into the State and which could be easily replaced. These were got made but were subsequently replaced, by the "madi Sadies"

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state and which could be easily replaced. These were not

description chiefly of articles that are imported largely into the

"madi Sadies"/ which have been taken up by the weavers at Doddaballapur and other places. He therefore considers that our efforts should be entirely devoted to the manufacture of cheap cotton sadis of the varieties known in the market as Salari and Satwarichari sadis. It is no doubt true that very cheap cotton sadis are now being made by the Sholapur and other weaving mills. We should therefore give up this work and make the above mentioned sadis of which there is an import of nearly 10 lakhs in the State. Some difficulties were raised regarding dyeing and sizing. These are matters which can be overcome by adopting methods followed in the place of manufacture. He even suggested the utilisation of the power looms for the manufacture of such sadis. In case there was any technical difficulty to be encountered in their use all the fly shuttle looms should be employed on this class of work. The use of fly shuttle looms has become quite popular nowadays in the States and in case such suitable varieties are introduced all these would be copied by the weavers in the moffusil. He incidentally gave his experiences of the weaving industry in the Taluks of the Bangalore District and stated that efforts at improving silk weaving may be left to the weavers themselves and we should concentrate our attention on the manufacture of cheap cotton sadis and furnishing of suitable designs.

As a result of these discussions action should be taken on the following lines:-

1) Progandstic work should be undertaken to popularize our weaving appliances. The demonstrators should be employed not merely in setting looms and loom parts but in introducing all the improved weaving appliances and developing the industry on a large scale.

2) There should be no difficulty in having more power loom factories if technical help could be made available in case of dificulties and also if a suitable type of sizing machine is designed. This is being investigated and orders have been placed for the most improved type of power loom to be had in Europe.

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"Wadi Saddle" which have been taken up by the weavers at Dodda-

3) The cloths made in the Govt: Weaving Factories require a better finish and in case the prices are reduced so as to compete with those prevailing in the market, there can be no difficulty in effecting rapid sales.

4) The silk twisting machines have been proved to be useful. It seems necessary that our attention should be confined to the improvement of the same after Swiss or American patterns.

5) The manufacture of cheap cotton saids should be undertaken, a beginning may be made with a few hand looms and one of the power looms may be entirely devoted to this class of work.

6) Steps should be taken to start a few weaving factories in the Mofussil on the lines of the West Coast factories, but adapted to Mysore conditions.

Director of Industries and
Commerce in Mysore.